

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

May 28, 2019

HOUSING AT BOB HOPE PATRIOTIC HALL PARKING LOT

Built in 1925, the Bob Hope Patriotic Hall provides a wide array of services to Los Angeles County Veterans, active members of the United States Armed Forces, and their dependents and survivors. The Hall also provides offices for the County’s Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, other County Departments, and to nonprofits and organizations including the Veterans American Jobs Center of California and U.S. VETS.

Acting as a hub for military and Veterans services in the County, the Hall annually sees over 30,000 visitors, holds over 1,000 events, and has an auditorium that seats up to 475. The building hosts many trainings, conferences, job fairs, and ceremonies that create spikes in parking demand and force those seeking services to find off-site parking. As an active resource center for tens of thousands of County residents, the Hall’s adjacent parking lot, which consists of 63 existing parking spaces and is located between Lebanon Street and Flower Street, experiences an overwhelming demand. On a daily basis, those seeking services at the Hall are relegated to trying to find off-site parking.

At the same time, the County is cognizant of the severe housing and homelessness crisis that has taken hold across the state. It is in the County’s best interest to utilize the Hall’s parking lot to not only address the growing needs of Veterans, active servicemembers, and their dependents and survivors, but to also address the region’s dire need for additional housing.

I THEREFORE MOVE, that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct the Chief Executive Officer, in coordination with the Department of Public Works, to complete the current parking needs assessment at the Bob

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Hope Patriotic Hall which consists of a parking demand analysis and available supply of nearby off-site parking.

2. Direct the Chief Executive Officer, in coordination with the Department of Public Works, Los Angeles County Development Authority, Homeless Initiative, Military and Veterans Affairs, and LAHSA, to examine the feasibility of building a parking structure on the existing parking lot to address the current parking demand at the Patriotic Hall, and include in the feasibility study opportunities to construct affordable housing for Veterans, inclusive of men, women, and those who are gender-nonconforming, as well as their families.
3. Direct the Chief Executive Officer to return to the Board in 120 days with the results of the parking needs assessment, including off-site parking opportunities near the Bob Hope Patriotic Hall, and with recommendations for potential development of a parking structure that includes affordable housing for veterans, inclusive of men, women, and those who are gender-nonconforming, as well as their families. The report back should also include a review of any funding streams that may be available to cover the cost of parking and housing development.

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